PME RESEARCH LABORATORY August 1980

PROJECT TITLE : LEGISLATION

PERIOD COVERED : July - August 1980

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GERMANY

Warning label

A voluntary agreement has been reached in Germany between the government and the German cigarette industry for the following warning label:

"Der Bundesgesundheitsminister: Rauchen gefährdet Ihre Gesundheit. Der Rauch einer Zigarette dieser Marke enthält nach DIN durchschnittlich ... mg Nikotin und durchschnittlich ... mg Kondensat (Teer)."

(The Health Ministry: Smoking damages your health. The smoke of one cigarette of this brand contains according to DIN on an average ... mg nicotine and on an average ... mg condensate (tar).)

This warning must be applied:

- From November 1st, 1980 in newspaper ads
- From beginning of February 1981 on advertising posters
- From October 1st, 1981 on the cigarette packs.

By fall this year, the Ministry shall try to reach also such a voluntary agreement with tobacco and cigar manufacturers. In case of failure, the government would have to emit an ordinance which would also be applied to the cigarette industry.

"Chemikaliengesetz"

A final recommendation has been submitted to the German Health Ministry concerning the chemical products regulations. It is recommended that food products, additives, tobacco products and cosmetics be excepted from the law. If this recommendation is accepted, the tobacco products as such, would no be submitted to the chemicals law.

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Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/nqml0000

NORWAY

The Norwegian Council on Smoking and Health wanted to have 16 different warning labels as in Sweden. The Norwegian Social Department has decided not to take up the question of new or additional warning labels, for the reason that they do not want an increase of cost and consequently an increase of consumer prices.

IRELAND

There is presently no legal prohibition of the sale of tobacco products containing additives or substitutes. The Department of Health intends to restrict and control the use of additives and substitutes and hopes to do so by voluntary agreement. The products to be sold in Ireland would be approved by the Minister on the bases of submissions to be made to the National Drugs Advisory Board. The Board would base its considerations on the English Hunter list, but not automatically apply it in Ireland. The probability of legislation exists if a satisfactory voluntary agreement cannot be reached.

Outside the region:

CANADA

The Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers' Council has agreed to add carbon monoxide levels to the tar and nicotine levels on cigarette packs. The question to put "cyanide" on the labels was discussed. The answer could depend on whether there are significant differences in "cyanide" content among brands.

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